Agreement between India and Oman for supply of gas

*414. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the agreement entered into between India and Oman for the supply of gas and what are the main reasons which necessitated for entering into a contract with Oman;

(b) whether Government have made any enquiry to the effect that Oman had adequate resources and ability to fulfil its commitment to supply gas to India and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have made any feasibility study for the project and also about the quantity of gas to be lifted from the project annually and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) An Agreement has been signed with the Sultanate of Oman on the Principal Terms to be included in the Long Terms Gas Supply Contract. The Principal Terms include the Contract Period, Contract Quantity, Minimum Quantity, Price, etc. The Contract with Oman will be signed after the successful completion of the feasibility study. An Expert Committee has been formed to examine the gas reserves of Oman. An Expert Group formed in March, 1993 has reported the feasibility of utilising 56.6 MMSCMD of gas to be imported from Oman in meeting the identified demands along the HBJ pipeline and in the Southern States.

Regrouping of LTTE in Tamil Nadu

*415. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 5th March 1995 that the LTTE regrouped itself to reestablish its network in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so the reaction of Government and the steps taken to prevent that regrouping?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of Tamil Nadu has intimtaed that there is no evidence suggestive of the Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) re-grouping in the State. A careful watch is however being maintaind to prevent any possible re-grouping.

Diplomatic and Commercial relations with Mongolia

*416. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what follow up action was taken to reinforce our friendly relations with Mongolia, after the visit of President of P. Ochirbat to India in the year 1994;

(b) what are the provisions of the Treaty of Friendly Relations and Cooperations signed between India and Mongolia;

(c) whether our trade with Mongolia has increase since this treaty; and

(c) what is being done to increase commercial and diplomatic interaction with Mongolia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) President P. Ochirbat paid an official visit to India in February 1994. A series of measures have since been undertaken to further strengthen bilatral relations. Union Agriculture Minister Dr. Balaram Jakhar visited Ulanbaatar in April 1994. This was fol-